AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.   (Previously Amended) A method, comprising:

receiving a first database;

forming a virtual schema including at least a portion of a dataset included within the first database;

receiving a first input indicating a criteria;

aggregating data of the first database into one or more groupings in accordance with the virtual schema and the first input indicating the criteria; and

displaying one or more indicators associated with the one or more groupings on an n-dimensional presentation.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a second input indicating one or more regions;

storing the second input as a spatial-object meta data; and

aggregating the groupings based upon the spatial-object meta data.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

displaying one or more indicators associated with the one or more groupings in a region associated therewith on an n-dimensional presentation.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein

the region comprises at least one of:

a polygon,

a circle,

a rectangle,

an ellipse, and

an animal home range.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein:

the second input indicating one or more regions comprises:

at least one of:

an input from a user,

a pre-determined area,

a derivation based upon one or more objects on the n-dimensional

          presentation, and

a result of a computation.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein:

the pre-determined area comprises at least one of:

a zip code,

an area code,

a census tract,

a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA),

a nation state,

a state,

a county,

a municipality,

a latitude, and

a longitude.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein:

the derivation based upon one or more objects on the n-dimensional

          presentation comprises:

a region within a specified distance of a power line.

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8.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein:

the result of a computation comprises:

computing an animal home range, the home range providing a region defined
    by activities of a target;

defining within the region a first ellipse; and

defining within the region a second ellipse approximately orthogonal to the
    first ellipse; wherein

an area defined by intersection of the first ellipse and the second ellipse
    provides a greatest probability of finding the target.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein:

the target comprises at least one of:

a suspect, who perpetrated criminal acts defined by the data,

a customer, who completed transactions in shops defined by the data,

a source of biological material, which caused infections in persons defined by
    the data.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein:

aggregating the groupings based upon the spatial-object meta data comprises:

checking whether data points fall within a common region, and

if so, aggregating data represented by the data points.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein:

the n-dimensional presentation comprises a map.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein:

displaying one or more indicators further comprises:

determining an x, y coordinate for each region on the map;

displaying at least one indicator associated with the one or more groupings on
    the map at the x, y coordinate.

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13.   (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

receiving a third input indicating a one or more redefined regions;

storing the third input as a redefined spatial-object meta data; and

aggregating into new groupings based upon the spatial-object meta data.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

redefining the virtual schema based upon the spatial-object meta data.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein:

redefining the virtual schema based upon the spatial-object meta data

comprises:

receiving a third input indicating a criteria;

aggregating data of the database into one or more new groupings in

accordance with the redefined virtual schema and the third input

indicating the criteria; and

displaying one or more indicators associated with the one or more new

groupings on an n-dimensional presentation.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

receiving a third input indicating a relationship between a first data point and

a second data point on the n-dimensional presentation;

reflecting the relationship in the virtual schema;

aggregating data of the database into one or more new groupings in

accordance with the virtual schema; and

displaying one or more indicators associated with the one or more new

groupings on an n-dimensional presentation.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a second database;

forming a virtual schema including at least a portion of a dataset included

within at least one of the first database and the second database;

receiving a first input indicating a criteria;

aggregating data of at least one of the first database and the second database
into one or more groupings in accordance with the virtual schema and
the first input indicating the criteria; and

displaying one or more indicators associated with the one or more groupings
on an n-dimensional presentation.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating code in accordance with the virtual schema.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

providing customer centric information to a core of customer data within the
database in accordance with the virtual schema.

20.   (Previously Amended) A method, comprising:

receiving a first database;

forming a virtual schema including at least a portion of a dataset included
within the first database;

receiving a first input indicating a criteria;

receiving a second input indicating one or more regions;

aggregating data of the first database into one or more groupings in
accordance with the virtual schema, the first input indicating the
criteria, and the second input indicating the one or more regions of
interest; and

displaying one or more indicators associated with the one or more groupings
on an n-dimensional presentation.

21.   (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a schema builder that generates one or more virtual schemas including at least a portion of data input from a source, and generates mapping rules controlling data movement into a data warehouse;

a metadata repository operative to hold the virtual schemas and mapping rules;

a data warehouse builder;

a spatial-object data repository;

a region checker; and

an n-dimensional presentation;

wherein the data warehouse is defined by at least a portion of the data input, the virtual schemas, the mapping rules, and the analysis functions; and

wherein one or more indicators associated with one or more groupings determined from the at least a portion of data input from a source are displayed on the n-dimensional presentation.

22.   (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the source comprises at least one of a plurality of on line transaction processing (OLTP) databases.

23.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for generating one or more virtual schemas including at least a portion of data input from a source;

means for generating mapping rules controlling data movement into a data warehouse;

means for holding the virtual schemas and mapping rules;

means for generating one or more analysis functions based upon the virtual schemas and data input; and

means for displaying one or more indicators associated with the one or more groupings on an n-dimensional presentation.

24.   (Canceled)

25.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product, comprising:

code for accessing meta data from a repository;

code for translating entities from a meta model into a data schema to form a
    database;

code for providing customer activity correlation queries with access to a
    database of a data warehouse;

code for providing customer data analysis functions;

code for ~~providing~~ displaying analysis results to at least one of a plurality of
    business applications using one or more indicators associated with the
    one or more groupings on an n-dimensional presentation; and

a computer readable storage medium for holding the codes.

26.   (Original) A customer data analysis report produced according to the
method of claim 1.

27.   (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method of claim 1, wherein forming a
virtual schema including at least a portion of a dataset included within the first database
~~comprising~~ comprises:

providing a focal group, comprising:

at least one of a plurality of core components; and

at least one of a plurality of classification components providing

classifications for information relating to the core

components; and

providing at least one customized group, comprising:

at least one of a plurality of customer activity components related to

the core component; and

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at least one of a plurality of activity lookup components related to at
least one of the customer activity components;

wherein the focal group and the customized group comprise a reverse star
schema meta model.

28.   (Previously Amended) A computer readable storage medium
containing information organized into a focal group and at least one
customized group according to the method of claim 27.

29.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein displaying one or more
indicators associated with the one or more groupings on an n-dimensional presentation
comprises:

overlaying the one or more indicators on a virtual world presentation.

30.   (New) A method, comprising:

receiving input data from a source;

determining at least one grouping of data from the source data based upon a
virtual schema including at least a portion of the input data and aggregation according to a
received criteria; and

associating an indicator with the grouping of data for display of the indicator
on an n-dimensional presentation.

31.   (New) The method of claim 30, wherein associating an indicator with
the grouping of data for display of the indicator on an n-dimensional presentation comprises:

displaying at least one indicator, the indicator indicating a location and
density information determined from the source data.

32.   (New) The method of claim 31, wherein displaying at least one
indicator, the indicator indicating a location and density information determined from the
source data comprises:

displaying a graphical depiction of the source data, wherein density information is indicated by the graphical depiction.

33.   (New) The method of claim 32, wherein displaying a graphical depiction of the source data, wherein density information is indicated by the graphical depiction comprises:

displaying a bar graph depiction of the source data, wherein the bar graph indicates modifications in response to user input.

34.   (New) The method of claim 33, wherein displaying a bar graph depiction of the source data, wherein the bar graph indicates modifications in response to user input comprises:

displaying at least one dot, right arrow, left arrow or word(s).